



CDC Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain

Home State Health understands managing patients with chronic pain can be a challenge which is why Home State is sharing the 2016 CDC guidelines for prescribing opioids for chronic pain. According to the CDC “An estimated 20% of patients presenting to physician offices with non-cancer pain symptoms or pain-related diagnoses (including acute and chronic pain) receive an opioid prescription” Assessing the need vs the risk of prescribing opioids when managing patients with chronic pain is essential. Home State encourages providers to review the CDC guidelines by utilizing the link below.

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/prescribing/guideline.html>

These clinical practice guidelines focus on the use of opioids when treating chronic pain outside of active cancer treatment, palliative care, and hospice care. We hope you find these recommendations useful when managing patients with chronic pain and the use of opioids.

As always, Home State values your partnership in transforming the health of the community, one individual at a time.

Home State Health’s Prior Authorization Update

Effective immediately, if Home State Health receives a prior authorization request with a primary Diagnosis code that falls under the non-specific category, the following Fax Back message will be sent:

“Please resubmit with a diagnosis code to the highest level of specificity possible.”

Examples of codes that fall in this category; A01, A02, B18, B19, H40.5, H40.6, S76, S76.001.

Per ICD-10-CM, these codes represent base codes that should not be authorized or billed. The providers will need to add enough information to the diagnosis code to represent a greater specificity that will match the claim. **The intent of this effort is to prevent authorizations that will lead to a denied claim.**

If you have any questions please reach out to Home State’s Medical Management team at 1-855-694-HOME (4663).

Home State Health’s New Clinical and Payment Policies

Effective June 1, 2017, Home State Health is implementing the following policies:

Clinical Policies:

- DNA Analysis of Stool



An important
message from
Provider Relations



- Home State Health's policy on DNA analysis of stool provides specific guidelines regarding **medical necessity**.
- Evoked Potentials
 - Home State Health's policy on evoked potential testing provides specific guidelines regarding **medical necessity**.
- Fecal Calprotectin Assay
 - It is Home State Health's policy that the FC assay is **investigational** for both the diagnosis and screening of IBD. Although there are many ongoing studies on FC assays, there is conflicting and inconsistent evidence regarding the optimal calprotectin cutoff level.

Payment Policy:

- Sleep Study Place of Service
 - Home State's code editing software will evaluate claim lines to determine if the **place of service** submitted for a sleep study is consistent with the definition of the sleep study procedure code billed. If the place of service is incorrect, the sleep study will be denied. For example, an **attended** sleep study billed in a location with a place of service of "**home**" would not be appropriate. **Attended sleep studies are to be performed in a facility setting, therefore; a "POS" of home (12) would not be appropriate.**

Please visit Home State Health's Practice Improvement Resource Center, Clinical and Payment Policies at www.HomeStateHealth.com to view each policy in its entirety.

➤ **Secure Portal Registration:** If you haven't already do so, please go to www.HomeStateHealth.com to register for our Secure Portal. Functions on the portal include: Verification of eligibility, submission of claims, entering authorizations, viewing patient care gaps, etc. Use of the portal is FREE for all services!

➤ **Electronic Funds Transfer / Electronic Remittance Advice**

- Home State Health Plan partners with PaySpan Health for EFT/ERA services.
- Please register with PaySpan Health at www.payspanhealth.com

Questions?

Contact Provider Relations at 1-855-694-4663.